for NREGA was Rs. 11,300 crore and in 2007-08, it was Rs. 12,000 crore. Number of households provided employment under the Act during the years 2006-07 and 2007-08 are as under:

Year	No. of households provided employment
2006-07	2.10 crore
2007-08	3.19 crore [Provisional]

(c) and (d) In 2008-09, a budget provision of Rs. 16,000 crore has been made for NREGA.

Criteria for forming of SHGs under SGSY

3219. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria being followed while forming of Self-Help-Groups (SHGs) under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY); and

(b) how many Self Help Groups are currently under the SGSY working, particularly in Maharashtra and the details of works undertaken by such SHGs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The objective of the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) is to bring the assisted families above the poverty line by ensuring appreciable increase in incomes over a period of time. The criteria being followed while forming the Self-Help Groups are as below:

1. A self help group may consist of 10 to 20 persons. However, in difficult areas like desserts, hills and areas with scattered and sparse population and in case of minor irrigation and disabled persons, this number may be from 5—20.
2. Generally all members of the group should belong to families below the poverty line. However, if necessary, a maximum of 20% and in exceptional cases, where essentially required, upto a maximum of 30% of the members in a group may be taken from families marginally above the poverty line living contiguously with BPL Families and if they are acceptable to the BPL members of the group.
3. The group should actively participate in the management and decision-making, such as devising a code of conduct, holding regular meetings, building up a corpus through regular savings, evolving financial management norms, interest rates and procedures for sanctioning of the loans etc.
4. The members in the group meetings should take all the loaning decisions through a participatory decision making process.
5. The group should operate a group account preferably in their service area bank branch.
6. The group should maintain simple basic records such as Minutes book, Attendance register, Loan ledger, General ledger, Cash book, Bank passbook and individual passbooks.

(b) In the State of Maharashtra, under SGSY, since inception of the scheme from 1.4.1999, 1,71,368 Self-Help Groups have been formed, out of which 1,05,875 SHGs have passed

Grade-I, 55,001 SHGs have passed Grade-II and 38,198 SHGs have taken up economic activities. During 2007-08 (upto February, 2008) the corresponding figures are: 26,246 SHGs formed, 18,700 SHGs passed Grade-I, 10,112 SHGs passed Grade—II and 6, 807 SHGs taken up economic activities. The Sector-wise details of 6,807 SHGs that have taken up economic activities in the year 2007-08 (upto February, 2008) are as follows:

Sector	Activities			Total
Primary	Irrigation	Live Stock	Others	
	284	4,664	561	5509
Secondary	Village industry	Handicraft/Handloom	Others	
	115	51/01	179	346
Tertiary		952		952
GRAND TOTAL:				6,807

Roads sanctioned for Orissa under PMGSY

3220.SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVEOPMENT be pleased to state the total number and km. road, sanctioned for Orissa under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and the amount sanctioned and utilized till 31st December, 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): 5412 road works having 19156.66 km. length with a cost of Rs. 6003.03 crore have been cleared/sanctioned by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for Orissa. Upto December 2007, Rs. 2351.48 crore was released and Rs. 2041.93 crore was utilized.

Utilisation of funds under NREGA in Orissa, Bengal and Chhattisgarh

3221. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released by Central Government and total amount utilized for NREGP in Orissa, Bengal and Chhattisgarh Government till 31st December, 2007, and the details State-wise and month-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that workers are not getting identity card, payment and also unemployment allowance; and

(c) whether it is a fact that some State Governments are taking money from NREGA by charging royalty for earth work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Funds released by Central Government to Orissa, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal till 31.12.07 (month wise) and cumulative utilisation of funds as on 31.12.07 during 2007-2008 is given in enclosed Statement. (*See* below)

(b) No identity card is issued under NREGA. However, under the Act, job card is issued to a rural household by the Gram Panchayat after verification of the details given in the application for registration. Some complaints have been received from these States for